

KNOXVILLE WHIG.

KNOXVILLE, TENN.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1861.

Books! Books! Books!!

I have on hand a book of 300 pages, well bound, being a discussion of the history question between myself and Pope, as she stands, which I will send out by mail, post paid to any inquiring reader.

I have my "American Slaveholding with Roger Douglass," containing six Reprints, which I will send out post paid for 50 cents, or two copies for our citizens.

W. G. Brownlow.

Nov. 18, 1860.

Watchman, What of the Night?

But a few weeks back, several of our most intelligent South Tennesseeans were at the Capital of our State, listening to the discussions in and out of the Legislature, which, at that time, was in extraordinary session. These visitors had gone there believing that the people were loyal to the Government. What they saw, and there heard, did not destroy their confidence in the people, or drive them from conclusions upon which their minds had settled. That politicians were gambling with the liberties of the people, and that an adjustment of impending difficulties could be had at their expense, was the understanding. Not if the people could not be heard, their voice would be in the political sea, as was that of the voice of the Saxon to the sea of Utilities. The dark, enigma waves would sink back into submersion, and there would be a great calm. No lover of his country, present at the late called session of our Legislature, would have escaped the conclusion, that, visiting Tennessee, as we of the South were now visiting the public opinion of the Northern States, by the assumption of the members that they were by some sort of implication given to know the minds of the people, and had the right in speak for the people; even Tennessee would, before the 4th of March, go out of the Union, as the language of the day expresses it.

And had the members of the Legislature been delegates to a State Convention, then Mr. Walker, of Alabama, would not have been denied rank in telegraphing to the Governor of his State, that Tennessee would immediately, looking from the stand point from which he and his type of politicians look, be out and cast. If Gov. Harris and his party associates, who lived and die, in matters of politics, could have done so, they would have carried Tennessee out of the Union, upon the wave of Secession. And shall it also be considered rank, who looks to the Governor of Tennessee, that, casting aside the Southern party, as being really responsible for the popular excitement? Surely not. Only those who like our East Tennessee visitors at Nashville, look upon the vast plains over which the people travel, can see the sense we Mr. Walker, in his dispatches, or of those letter writers, who assumed Chattanooga, Millville, and Montgomery, that Tennessee would certainly follow suit.

It is known fact, that the Secessionists were confident of success, in their assault upon Tennessee, and the stoutest efforts among the hosts of the Union quailed within them, for the consequences looked for, from such a result. Why? Because, evidently, the people do possess their Legislative bodies to speak for them, as well as political Conventions, being immaterial whether they speak truth or falsehood, where such liberties are granted. By our glorious Constitution, our liberties are secured, and Legislation itself, the highest exercise of delegated sovereignty, is confined and limited, so that the people know as long as the Constitution stands, whether a State Legislature can Congress can seriously affect their prosperity and happiness, and that they cannot all do away their liberties. This great fact is overlooked, by mere self-conceited leaders, who have so long been reasoning to the people. They mistake the matter quite, when they suppose that the social acquirements of the people is owing to their confidence, however, of the rest of their party leaders. They will find, that every party leaders of Virginia, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Missouri, you know, that it is the confidence the people have in the Government, as secured and established by written Constitutions, that all the time quieted their minds, and induced them to acquiesce in what was passing. The establishment of Constitutions (except in the case of the Southern Confederacy), is the work of the People—not of States—of the People.

Believe it and long live in mind, that the followers of Tennessee aware that our only safety and honor lie in the revolutionary act of Secession. The People, with an unswerving unanimity of sentiment, are. Our liberty can only be secured under the Constitution. Under that sacred instrument, with the stars and stripes over their heads, they have swayed upon the side of Liberty, they will battle for their rights. They say, that the principles of the Constitution cover all their rights, and secure all their interests. All they ask, all they would have, is that sentiments be adopted clearly setting forth on the face of the Constitution, that the Supreme Court has pronounced to be its principle. The Border State, with slight absolute unanimity, and a majority of the states of even the Breeding States, will accept any of the several propositions now before the Peace Congress—they will take either the Crittenden or Davis State proposition. Let every member of Congress who thinks his constituents will be opposed to either, try them, and the country will see, that if amendments to the Constitution were adopted, and submitted by written Constitutions, then, it would be to weaken, not to strengthen the power of the people, and to impair their rights. This is, however, a general statement, and their wishes were met by the Government, having ignorantly passed over the Union, creating and carrying with them the government torts, blemishes of war, and wantonness, with severe penalties more. When we with a distant State, we wish to go among honest men, living in a state of civilization, and having enough of regard for the Christian Religion, and the teachings of the Bible, to feel that our trust and interest are safe!

Burning us in Effigy.

The following extract from a letter just received, shows that we have been honored in Texas:

Potomac, Tex., Feb. 14, 1861.

W. G. Brownlow: Your paper has become quite popular in Texas, and your position in the State is strong.

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